

Claim 35 has not been changed by this amendment and remains as follows.

35. A method in accordance with claim 34, wherein the device with a local audio source and the packet forwarding device and memory are part of a network telephone device and the first collision domain is in one of a local area network, wide area network and internet protocol network and the second collision domain is a connected computer device.

Please cancel claim 36.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-13, 15, 17-23, 25-27, 29-31, 34 and 35 are in the case and are presented for consideration. By this Amendment, Applicant has revised independent claim 1 and Applicant has revised claim 34 to present it with the features of claim 36 such that it is allowable. Accordingly, all claims should now be allowed.

Claims 1, 2-13 and 30-31 have been objected to with the Examiner noting informalities.

Applicant has revised claim 1 as noted above. With regard to claim 30, it is Applicant's position that the claim does not have the informality noted and that the claim is correct as presented. Consideration at this point is requested. It is Applicant's position that all claims are in condition for allowance.

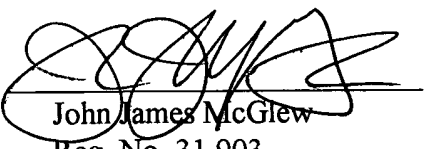
The Examiner has now required that the drawing corrections be made. Applicant attaches hereto formal drawings. Approval of the drawings is requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims as being obvious.

It is Applicant's position that the claims as now presented define subject matter which is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner favorably consider the claims as now presented.

Respectfully submitted
For Applicant,

By:


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JJM:jj/da
63186.10

Attached: Marked-up Version of the Claims Showing Changes
Enclosed: Formal Drawings

DATED: October 9, 2002
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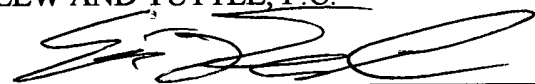
SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

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McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

BY:



DATE: October 9, 2002

(Marked-up Version of the Claims Showing Changes)

1. A method for forwarding packets to a network, comprising the steps of:
providing a packet forwarding system with a memory, said packet forwarding system being connected to the network;
receiving an analog signal and generating local audio packets;
receiving packets at the packet forwarding system including local audio packets and storing the packets in the memory of the packet forwarding system;
attempting to forward packets stored in the memory to the network;
establishing one or more time limit within which to forward packets stored in the memory to the network with the time limit linked to the ~~{content}~~ type of the data included in the packet;
monitoring an elapsed period of time while attempting to forward packets stored in the memory to the network; and
canceling said attempting to forward a packet stored in the memory to the network, when the elapsed period of time exceeds the time limit associated with the ~~{content}~~ type of the data included in the packet.

34. A network method for forwarding packets, the method comprising:
providing a device with a local audio source and a packet controller for forming local audio packets;
providing a packet forwarding device with a memory, said packet forwarding device being connected to the device and being connected to a first collision domain and a second collision domain;
receiving packets at the packet forwarding device from the device, from the first collision domain and from the second collision domain and storing the packets in the memory of the packet forwarding system;
providing a time limit for local audio packets to be held in the memory;
attempting to forward packets stored in the memory to any one of the device and the first collision domain and the second collision domain;
monitoring an elapsed period of time while attempting to forward the local audio packet stored in the memory to one of the ~~{one of the}~~ first collision domain and the second collision domain; and
canceling said attempting to forward the local audio packet stored in the memory to the one of the ~~{one of the}~~ first collision domain and the second collision domain, wherein said audio packet contains time sensitive audio data and no time limit or a different time limit is established for packets received from one of said first collision domain and said second collision domain than for packets received with audio data.